

DRAWINGS

Formal Drawings

The indication by the Examiner in the recent Office Action that the formal drawings filed on 4/21/2005 were approved by the Draftsman is noted with appreciation.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Status

Claims 23-27 have been cancelled by the present amendment and no claim has been added. Independent claim 21, independent claim 28 with claim 22 depending therefrom, and independent claim 29 with claims 30-31 depending therefrom will remain for further consideration.

The submission of a terminal disclaimer should obviate the grounds for rejection of claim 28.

Claim History

The Examiner rejected claims 21-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 double patenting over U.S. Patent 6,577,794. The Examiner rejected claims 28 under nonstatutory double patenting.

Allowable Subject Matter, Otherwise Allowable Claims

The Examiner indicated that claims 27 and 29-31 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and of any intervening claims. Claims 21 and 29 have been so rewritten. The indication of this allowable subject matter is noted with appreciation.

Oath and Declaration

Applicant submits that the oath and declaration are proper except for the listing of priority documents. Since the information is correct on the filing receipt, submission of the enclosed Application Data Sheet should correct any alleged error in the oath and

declaration. However, should this not be the case, Applicants will submit a new oath and declaration upon request.

Summary

Applicants have made a diligent and bona fide effort to answer each and every ground for rejection or objection to the specification including the claims and to place the application in condition for final disposition. Reconsideration and further examination is respectfully requested, and for the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition to be passed to issue and such action is earnestly solicited. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Robert N. Blackmon, Applicants' Attorney at 703-684-5633 to satisfactorily conclude the prosecution of this application.

No fee should be due with this amendment, however, authorization is granted to charge any fee or credit any overpayment to deposit account 50-0562.

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Respectfully submitted,

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